

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL QUEBEC

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 426

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (PIERRE ELLIOT TRUDEAU) CA

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO TRUDEAU VISIT

REF: OTTAWA 3965, MONTREAL 1896

1. LE SOLEIL OF QUEBEC GAVE TRUDEAU VISIT LIMITED COVERAGE, PREFERRING CONCENTRATE BOURASSA VISIT PARIS. STRAIGHT -FOR- FORWARD REPORTING DECEMBER 5-6 (PAGE 3 AND PAGE 8) FOLLOWED BY EDITORIAL DECEMBER 7. OTHER PAPERS RECEIVED QUEBEC REPORTED IN MONTREAL 1896.

2. REPORTING BY DONALD DOYLE, LE SOLEIL WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT STRESSED FORD/TRUDEAU AGREEMENT IMPORTANCE CLOSE CONSULTATIONS OTTAWA/WASHINGTON ON ENERGY MATTERS. TRUDEAU EXPLAINED CANADA S OWN ENERGY PROBLEMS., PROBABLY DID NOT SUCCEED IN CONVINCING FORD BUT HELPED BETTER COMPREHENSION . FORD NEVER BRANDISHED REPRISAL THREATS. NO SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS MODIFIED BUT TRUDEAU RETURNED HOME SATISFIED ATTAINED MAIN OBJECTIVE: TO DEMONSTRATE TO FORD THAT CANADA REMAINS AN ALLY, THAT CANADA S POSITIONS ARE REASONABLE AND THAT CANADA OPEN TO COMPROMISE (ESPECIALLY ON BEEF). TONE OF ARTICLES RESTRAINED: DECEMBER 5 ARTICLE COMMENTS RECEPTION RATHER SIMPLE., DEC 6 ARTICLE MORE UPBEAT CITING FORD INVITATION TRUDEAU VISIT

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HIS FAMILY IN PRIVATE QUARTERS AS PERSONAL GESTURE WHICH

TOUCHED TRUDEAU.

3. EDITORIAL BY GILLES BOYER CITES HISTORICAL EVOLUTION RELATIONS TO PROVE THAT CONSTANT US/CANADIAN TALKS NATURAL AS IS FACT THAT ECONOMIC AND SECURITY QUESTIONS AT CENTER OF CONVERSATIONS. BOYER SAYS APPROACHING EXHAUSTION OF ALBERTA SUPPLY JUSTIFIES CANADIAN OIL CUT-OFF., BESIDES US HAS GREATER SUPPLY OTHER ENERGY SOURCES. ONE MUST MAKE US UNDERSTAND CANADIAN POLICY NEITHER HOSTILE GESTURE NOR NARROW NATIONALISM.
 4. BOYER, WHO VISITED NATO HQ LAST SPRING WITH US GRANT, GOES ON TO DEFENSE MATTERS REFERRING TO TRUDEAU S LETTING IT BE UNDERSTOOD NORAD WILL BE RENEWED. CANADA MUST DO SO, HE WRITES, AS NEUTRALIST POLICY NOT VIABLE. HAVING REDUCED NATO FORCES SOMETIME AGO, CANADA MUST CONTINUE SUPPORT NORTH AMERICAN DEFENSE AND NORAD IS ALMOST APPROPRIATE INSTRUMENT.
 5. GOOD NEIGHBOUR POLICY DOES NOT MEAN EXCLUSIVE ORIENTATION TOWARD US, BOYER ADDS. WHILE CONTINENTAL INTERGRATION GROWS ELSEWHERE CANADA MUST PREVENT NORTH AMERICAN INTERGRATION FROM BECOMING TOO TIGHT. WHILE US OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE, NOTHING SHOULD PROHIBIT CANADIAN OPENINGS IN EUROPE AND JAPAN.
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